

Message Text

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62

ACTION SS-30

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1156

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4807

EXDIS

ZFF SECSTATE AND SEOUL ONLY

SEOUL FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: OVIP PFOR UN XF ME

SUBJ: TOUGH SYRIAN LINE

1. SYG WALDHEIM ADVISED ME TODAY THAT SYRIAN FONMIN AND DEPUTY FONMIN HAVE OUTLINED "A VERY TOUGH LINE" TO UN USYG GUYER IN CONVERSATIONS IN DAMASCUS YESTERDAY. IN TWO CABLES, GUYER REPORTS THAT SYRIANS ARE "CLEARLY NOT INTERESTED IN ANY TYPE" OF PARTIAL ARRANGEMENT SUCH AS EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI ACCORD OF 11 NOV. SYRIANS REPORTEDLY ARE READY TO EXCHANGE WOUNDED ISRAELI POW'S ONLY AFTER ISRAELIS WITHDRAW TO OCT 22 LINES AND INSIST OVER-ALL EXCHANGE OF POWS MUST BE LINKED TO FINAL ME SETTLEMENT. SYRIANS TOLD GUYER SYRIAN GOVT IS READY TO UPHOLD ALL CONVENTIONS, INCLUDING RED CROSS OBLIGATIONS, BUT INSISTS THAT IN ADVANCE ISRAELI PROCLAIM EITHER COMMITMENT TO IMPLEMENT GENEVA CONVENTION AND ESPECIALLY CONVENTION FOR ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL FOUR, ALLOW RETURN OF GOLAN HEIGHTS VILLAGERS TO THEIR HOMES, AND HAND OVER BODIES OF DEAD SYRIANS BEFORE EVEN EXCHANGE OF WOUNDED.
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2. WALDHEIM REPORTS TALKS CONDUCTED IN FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE BUT THAT HE IS DISTRUBED AT RIGID SYRIAN LINE. GUYER IS REPORTED SET TO TALK WITH SYRIAN CHIEF OF STAFF AL-ASSAD TODAY AND WILL SEEK DETERMINE WHETHER FON MIN'S LINE

REPRESENTS GOVT-WIDE POSITION. IN WALDHEIM'S WORDS, SYRIAN FONMIN'S ATTITUDE REPRESENTS "QUITE SOME CONDITIONS" WHICH GUYER INTERPRETS AS MEANING SYRIANS NOT INTERESTED IN PARTIAL, BUT ONLY IN COMPREHENSIVE PEACE SOLUTION.

3. GUYER REPORTS SYRIANS BELIEVE TIME IS ON THEIR SIDE BECAUSE THEY DO NOT HAVE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM SUCH AS EGYPTIANS HAD IN SUPPLIES FOR THIRD ARMY AND WORRY OVER SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF POW'S IN ISRAELI HANDS. SYRIAN ATTITUDE IS ALSO BASED, ACCORDING TO GUYER, ON BELIEF THAT THEY HAVE SOLID ARAB SUPPORT. "THEY APPARENTLY DON'T LIKE KISSINGER AGREEMENT WHICH WAS MADE WITH EGYPT".

4. WALDHEIM PROMISED TO REPORT PROMPTLY AND CONFIDENTIALLY TO ME ON GUYER MTG WITH AL-ASSAD ONCE HE RECEIVES GUYER'S CABLED REPORT. GUYER IS SCHEDULED TO GO BY AUTOMOBILE TO ISRAEL FOR TALKS AFTERWARD.

5. WALDHEIM ADDED HE BELIEVES HE HAS SUCCESSFULLY QUELLED BUDDING REBELLION BY NON-ALIGNED SC MEMBERS WHO YESTERDAY DEMANDING SC MTG TO DISCUSS OCT 22 LINES, PLUS PRIME MIN MEIR'S COMMENTS ABOUT IT.

6. HE DOES NOT ANTICIPATE SC SESSION THIS WEEK-END BECAUSE HE SAYS HE HAS PERSUADED NON-ALIGNED THAT DEVELOPMENTS ARE FAVORABLE ALTHOUGH HE INTENDS TO REPORT TO THEM INFORMALLY SOMETIME NEXT WEEK.

7. WALDHEIM, NOTING HIS CONFIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO KISSINGER, AGAIN APPEALED TO ME TO DO WHAT I COULD TO INSURE US HAS IMPORTANT ROLE IN PERMANENT PEACE TALKS. HE AGAIN ASKED FOR WHATEVER INFO CLD BE PROVIDED CONFIDENTIALLY ON DATE, TIME, AND PARTICIPANTS.

8. I URGED HIM TO KEEP NON-ALIGNED UNDER CONTROL
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TO PERMIT TIME FOR ON-THE-SPOT DEVELOPMENTS
TO EASE PRESSURES AND BRING FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENTS.
HE PROMISED TO KEEP GUYER'S CABLES SECRET WITHOUT
REPORTING THEM TO NON-ALIGNED AND/OR OTHERS FOR TIME BEING.
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